

Food Safety & Consumer Protection Div
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Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets

Biosecurity and Animal Health Practices

Considerable concern exists in our nation regarding the risks of bioterrorism or other acts of terrorism affecting agriculture. In response to these concerns and exhibitor's heightened concerns about exposure to infectious diseases, organizers of all livestock exhibition events are encouraged to follow these guidelines.

- (1) Adopt and enforce the Uniform Animal Health Standards recommended for Vermont Fairs, Field Days and Festivals.
- (2) Contract with a local veterinarian to monitor the event for contagious diseases and provide necessary veterinary services.
- (3) Provide recommendations to exhibitors on how to limit exposure of their animals to infectious diseases.
- (4) If fairgrounds or premises will be host to multiple livestock events over the season, livestock barns and stalls should be cleaned and disinfected between events.
- (5) Superintendents should consider practices that will limit contact among and between animals and people such as creative use of barriers, signs, space or physical separations between groups of animals and walkways.
- (6) Although not likely, if suspicious activity is observed or if unexplained signs of illness or disease occurs in exhibition animals or fair attendees, it would be prudent to contact appropriate authorities/ personnel.

If you have questions regarding these issues, please contact the State Veterinarian's office at (802) 828-2421.